

GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX Chief Executive Officer

## COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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July 22, 2011

The Honorable Julia Brownley State Capitol Sacramento. CA 95814

RE: AB 709 (Brownley) - As Amended 4/6/2011 - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblywoman Brownley:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 709. This legislation would ensure that foster youth who transfer to a new school are immediately enrolled regardless of whether or not the pupil is able to produce his or her immunization records.

Existing law requires the new school to immediately enroll the foster child even if he or she is unable to produce clothing or records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, medical records, proof of residency, other documentation, or school uniforms. Unfortunately, there are inconsistencies between the Health and Safety Code and the Education Code that are creating additional barriers for foster youth as they attempt to enroll in school.

AB 709 would resolve any confusion emanating from the inconsistencies between the two codes, and provide a clearer path for enrolling foster youth who find it necessary to transfer to a new school due to no fault of their own.

For these reasons, San Bernardino County supports AB 709. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Deputy Legislative Director, at (909) 387-4280. The County thanks you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

**JOSIE GONZALES** 

Chair, Board of Supervisors